

**In the Specification:**

*On page 5, line 2, paragraph [0010], please amend the paragraph as follows:*

[0010] According to the present invention there is provided a device for the production of anastomoses between first and second hollow organs comprising an inner sleeve to be mounted around the end of the first hollow organ such that the end can then be turned inside out to lie over the inner sleeve; an outer sleeve to be mounted around the end of the second hollow organ after the latter end has been arranged over the inside out end of the first hollow organ; the inner and outer sleeves each being made separable so that they can be removed after anastomosis formation has been completed and comprising electrically conductive materials that can be connected to an external current or voltage source so that a current or a voltage can be applied to the electrically conductive materials for the electrocoagulation of the hollow organs that are to be connected to one another. The problem posed in accordance with the invention is thus solved by the fact that the inner sleeve and the outer sleeve comprise electrically conductive materials that can be connected to an external current or voltage source in order to apply a current or a voltage to the contact surfaces, so as to induce electrocoagulation of the hollow organs that are to be connected. The device in accordance with the invention combines the advantages of employing removable accessories for producing anastomoses, i.e. objects that are eliminated when the process of anastomosis has been completed, with a tissue bonding induced by electrocoagulation, which provides a particularly gentle but also secure and permanent connection of the hollow organs. The term “sleeve” denotes tubular as well as ring-shaped elements, which are positioned around the hollow organs that are to be connected and are as closely apposed thereto as possible. By means of the device described here, anastomoses can be produced without leaving any foreign bodies in place. As a result, in the case of blood vessels the risk of thrombosis is considerably reduced. It is possible for the inner and/or the outer sleeve to be made of the electrically conductive material itself. In this case, for instance, stainless steel or platinum can be used as electrically conductive material or as a coating of the sleeve, in particular where insertion into humans is concerned. It is also possible to dispose on the outer surface of the

inner sleeve and/or the inner surface of the outer sleeve at least one contact surface made of electrically conductive material.

*On page 12, line 23, paragraph [0037], please amend the paragraph as follows:*

[0037] Fig. 7, finally, shows another embodiment of the device in accordance with the invention in cross section; in this case fitting elements 21, for example in the form of a circumferential groove, are disposed on the inner sleeve 3, and the outer sleeve 4 is provided with corresponding fitting elements 22 with a complementary shape, for example a likewise circumferential ~~groove~~ tongue, which enable exact positioning of the sleeves 3, 4 with respect to one another.

*On page 16, line 3, please amend the Abstract as follows:*

The invention relates to a device for producing anastomoses between hollow organs  $[(1, 2)]$ , comprising an inner sleeve  $[(3)]$  mounted around the end of the first hollow organ  $[(1)]$  and an outer sleeve  $[(4)]$  mounted around the end of the second hollow organ  $[(2)]$ , said end being arranged over the end of the first hollow organ  $[(1)]$ , which is turned inside out over the inner sleeve  $[(3)]$ . The inner sleeve  $[(3)]$  and outer sleeve  $[(4)]$  are separable. In order to obtain a secure and durable anastomosis that is easy to carry out, the inner sleeve  $[(3)]$  and outer sleeve  $[(4)]$  comprise electricity-conducting materials, for example in the form of contact surfaces  $[(5, 6)]$  which can be connected to an external power or voltage in order to electrocoagulate the hollow organs  $[(1, 2)]$  that are to be joined.